Northern District of California

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION

PRECISELY SOFTWARE INCORPORATED, Plaintiff, v. LOQATE INC., Defendant.

AND RELATED COUNTERCLAIMS

Case No. 22-cv-00552-BLF (VKD)

ORDER RE MAY 3, 2023 DISCOVERY DISPUTE

Re: Dkt. No. 70

This dispute concerns defendant and counter-claimant Logate Inc.'s ("Logate") document requests to plaintiff and counter-defendant Precisely Software Incorporated ("Precisely"). Dkt. No. 70. The Court finds this matter suitable for resolution without oral argument. Civil L.R. 7-1(b).

Logate and Precisely¹ are parties to a license agreement pursuant to which Precisely is licensed to integrate Loqute's software and data into Precisely's products. See Dkt. No. 70 at 1. According to the terms of the agreement, Precisely must pay fees to Loqate based on Precisely's customers' use of Logate's data. Precisely has the option to pay a fixed fee for its customer's use of Loque's data (assuming that use complies with the agreement's requirements for a fixed fee), or to pay a per transaction fee for such use. *Id.*; see also Dkt. No. 52 at 1-2.

Precisely alleges that for its customer Kering Italia S.P.A. ("Kering"), it paid Loqute on both a fixed fee basis and a per transaction basis in 2019 and 2020, resulting in an overpayment.

¹ Precisely has assumed the rights and obligations of its predecessor, Pitney Bowes Software, Inc., under the agreement. For convenience, the Court refers only to Precisely.

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Loque has refused to refund the overpayment. Precisely filed a complaint against Loque to recover the overpayment. Dkt. No. 31.

Loqate denies that Precisely overpaid the fees for Kering. Dkt. No. 55. In addition, Loqate filed a counterclaim against Precisely for breach of contract, breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, and for a declaration of the parties rights and obligations under the license agreement. Dkt. No. 56. Loqate's counterclaim allegations are very general, but its first two claims appear to be based on the contention that Precisely reported incorrect and inaccurate usage of Loqate's data, and paid a fixed fee for that use, even though its customers' use of Loqate's data did not comply with license agreement, which required Precisely to pay on a per transaction basis. *See id.* ¶¶ 1, 20, 23; *see also* Dkt. No. 70 at 2. In fact, Loqate contends that because Precisely improperly paid on a fixed fee basis for Kering, Precisely has substantially *underpaid* Loqate for data for that customer in subsequent years. Dkt. No. 56 ¶ 20.

Loqate served document requests essentially asking Precisely to produce documents detailing the use of Loqate's licensed software and data by all of Precisely's customers from 2018 to the present. Dkt. No. 70 at 2; Dkt. No. 70-1. Precisely has agreed to produce non-privileged documents responsive to Request for Production ("RFP") 1, but objects to producing any documents responsive to RFPs 2-10, beyond those relating to its customer Kering. Dkt. No. 70 at 2, 6.

The Court agrees with Loqate that discovery is not limited to Precisely's complaint and Loqate's defenses specific to Kering; Loqate's counterclaims are broader than the claims in Precisely's complaint. However, Loqate's counterclaims contain no allegations suggesting that its dispute with Precisely goes beyond those licensed customers for whom Precisely has been paying Loqate on a fixed fee basis, instead of on a per transaction basis.

Accordingly, the Court adopts Precisely's alternative proposal for resolution of this dispute: Precisely's obligations to respond to RFPs 2-10 are limited to Precisely's fixed-fee customers. *See id.* at 6. Precisely shall produce all non-privileged documents responsive to RFPs

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1-10 by June 16, 2023 , unless the parties agree otherwis
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IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: May 25, 2023

Virginia K. DEMARCHI United States Magistrate Judge